

Serial No.: 10/508,878
Atty. Docket No.: P70111US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for producing an annular element having an inner toothing, comprising:

arranging an outlet ring element in an extrusion device which includes an annular matrix element with an inner bore hole , a sleeve stamping device which is arranged therein and has a first and a second annular sleeve stamping element which can be moved in relation to each other in the inner bore hole, and an inner stamping device having a first and a second inner stamping element and first and second partial regions which are interspaced in the circumferential direction;

when the inner stamping device is closed, said partial regions forming cavities for producing the inner toothing; and

the outlet ring element being arranged between the first and second inner stamping elements and measured in such a way that when closing the sleeve stamping device, material from the outlet ring element flows into the cavities for the formation of the inner toothing.

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2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an element in the form of a forged blank is used as the outlet ring element.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the blank is blasted and annealed.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first inner stamping element and the second inner stamping element have toothings that become meshed together so that the first inner stamping element and the second inner stamping element are brought into an exact axial and circumferential direction in relation to one another.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first partial region is designed and used to form ~~the~~ a straight-cut tothing and a roof-shaped tothing of a tothing element of the inner tothing, and a second partial region is designed and used to create a roof-shaped tothing of a tothing element of the inner tothing.

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6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the outlet element is arranged between pressing surfaces of the first stamping element and the second stamping element, which are arranged transversely to a longitudinal axis.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the inner diameter, the outer diameter and the axial length of the outlet ring element are measured in such a way that when closing the sleeve stamping device, the outlet ring element is shortened on one end so that the material that is thereby displaced flows into the cavities.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein when closing the sleeve stamping device, the position of the first sleeve stamping element or the second sleeve stamping device remains static in its position and the second sleeve stamping device or the first sleeve stamping device is moved.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method is carried out while the temperature of the outlet ring element is between ambient temperature and approximately 1200° C.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the overflowing material and/or burrs created during the production of the annular element are removed by means of deburring.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein phosphate layers and/or rust is removed from the annual elements by means of debonders.

Claims 12-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) An extrusion device comprising an annular matrix with an inner bore hole, a sleeve stamping device which is arranged therein and includes a first and a second annular sleeve stamping element which can be moved in relation to each other in the inner bore hole, and an inner stamping device having a first and a second inner stamping element and first and second partial regions which are interspaced in the circumferential direction;

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said partial regions forming cavities for producing ~~the~~
an inner toothing when the first and a second inner stamping
elements of the inner stamping device are closed; and

~~the~~ an outlet ring element being arranged between the
first and second inner stamping elements and being measured in such
a way that when closing the sleeve stamping device, material from
the outlet ring element flows into the cavities for the formation
of the inner toothing.

17. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 16,
wherein the first inner stamping element and the second inner
stamping element have toothings that become meshed together so that
the first inner stamping element and the second inner stamping
element are brought into an exact axial and circumferential
direction in relation to one another.

18. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 16,
wherein the first partial region is designed and used to form the
straight-cut toothing and roof-shaped toothing of a toothing
element of the inner toothing, and a second partial region is
designed and used to create the upper toothing of a toothing
element of the inner toothing.

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19. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 16, wherein the first sleeve stamping element and the second sleeve stamping element have pressing surfaces running transversely to the longitudinal axis, between which the outlet element can be arranged.

Claims 20-22. (Canceled).